

**\*Howard County's 24th Annual Celebration of the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.\***

ELLCOTT CITY, MD –\* \*The Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission will present its 24th Annual Celebration of the life and legacy of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on \*Sunday, January 18, 2009\* at Howard Community College's Smith Theatre. The celebration is free to the public and will begin with a reception at 2 p.m. and a program at 3 p.m. This year's theme is "Embrace the dream; Live the dream. Together, we can do it!"

The celebration will include:

- Entertainment by several diverse cultural groups represented in Howard County
- Presentation of awards to student winners of the essay and poster contest related to Dr. King and his legacy
- Presentation of the "Commission Award" to a person who exemplifies the spirit of Dr. King's message

The Commission asks that attendees bring a \*canned food item\* to support Howard County's Food Bank. There will also be an opportunity to sign-up for a future "King Day of Service" to benefit the community and those in need.

A sign language interpreter is available by calling the Department of Citizen Services, TTY 410-313-6401, at least seven business days prior to the program. For more information on this event, contact the Office of Human Rights at 410-313-6430.